

TOWN OF WARREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY AUGUST 12, 2013

00037100

Members Present: Mike Ketchel, Michael Bridgewater, Jim Sanford, Craig Klofach, Lisa Miserendino and Dan Raddock.

Others Present: Eric Brattstrom, Dotty Kyle, Bob Baron, Miron Malboeuf and Ruth Robbins.

Agenda: Call the meeting to order, 7:30 pm.

1. Opportunity For Public Comment (fifteen minutes) 7:30 - 7:45 pm
2. Working Session Wind & Alternative Energy - Initial Draft Language.
3. FEH – Gretchen Alexander Report of Site Visit
4. Review & sign minutes from July 22nd, 2013
5. Other & New business:

Mr. Klofach called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm.

The first item on the agenda was time allocated for any public comment. Those in attendance said they primarily were there to listen to the discussion of the Commission. Mr. Brattstrom commented that the recently had the experience of visiting the Searsburg wind power site and came away with mixed emotions. Though he conceded that he could understand how people might be upset at the sight of them, they were not as disturbing a view as he thought they could be. PC member Mr. Sanford also had a wind tower siting experience out in California. He said that the location was such that the towers had some vegetation and small hills behind them versus sticking up on a hilltop with the sky as the backdrop. Ms. Kyle spoke about an article she came across that talked about "whisper" turbines being used in Australia that claim to be the quietest wind turbines made. Mr. Baron, also in the audience, asked about what consideration the PC was giving to solar energy and was told that the Commission supported the use of solar but was right now looking to add some specifics to the use of wind power.

With public comment concluded the PC then moved on to possible draft language. The member who had volunteered to start the ball rolling on drafting did not have anything down on paper for this meeting. He also added however to the comments on having driven by a wind power facility in upstate NY. He said after seeing the wind "farm" he did a little research and found that it was a total of 71 towers that was projected to produce 100 megawatts of power but that to date was only producing about 20 megawatts or 21.6% efficiency.

Mr. Baron mentioned to the PC that if they hadn't already looked it up that they should find out what the FAA regulations were as to tower heights within a certain distance from an airstrip [Sugarbush airport]. Mr. Ketchel looked it up and found that there needed to be a two mile radial shield from the front of the runway within which there could be no towers. The PC also revisited briefly the goals for alternative energy usage that the State has mandated as well as the cap that Green Mountain Power [GMP] has established that prohibits renewables from exceeding 4% of the overall power produced by the utility company.

The PC members briefly refreshed their memories of the ground check done by Ms. Alexander of the VT DEC by reviewing her summary memo of August 2, 2013 as this will be part of the discussion with the Select Board at the SB's August 27th meeting. At that meeting the SB will be reviewing the proposed FEH Overlay District proposed by the PC.

000372

TOWN OF WARREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY AUGUST 12, 2013

The members reviewed and signed the minutes of July 22nd. Mr. Kiofach adjourned the meeting at 8:53 pm.

Ruth V. Robbins
DRB/PC Assistant

Planning Commission

Lisa Miserendino date

Lisa Miserendino 8/20/13

Craig Kiofach date

Craig Kiofach 8/26/13

Michael Bridgewater date

Mike Ketchel date

Mike Ketchel 8/26/13 ^(NK)

Dan Raddock date

Dan Raddock 8/26/13

Jim Sanford date

Jim Sanford 8-26-13

TOWN OF WARREN, VT

Received for Record 8/27 2013

at 2:18 o'clock P M and Received in

Vol 224 Page 371-372

Peter Goss

TOWN CLERK